January 23, 2002

Date: 1/24/2002 Time: 12:11:20 PM

Attorney General John Ashcroft US Department of Justice 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

I truly appreciate the fact that the Attorney General had the courage to do the right thing by ending the Justice Department's three-year antitrust lawsuit against Microsoft with a strong and binding agreement. If this doesn't help to boost our sagging economy, I don't know what will.

Microsoft did not get off easily. The settlement was arrived at after extensive negotiations with a court-appointed mediator. The company agreed to terms that extend well beyond the products and procedures that were actually at issue in the suit - for the sake of wrapping up the suit.

Enough is enough. Microsoft even agreed to document and disclose, for use by its rivals, various interfaces that are internal to Windows' operating system products - a first in an antitrust settlement.

In conclusion, the government should never again have to sue Microsoft beyond this agreement. This case has gone far enough.

Sincerely,

A.P. Van Meter

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